

## **Public Health Brief**

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## COVID-19: We Are Tired of It, But It is Not Tired of Us!

This morning the FDA authorized some changes in recommendations for use of COVID-19 vaccines <a href="https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-changes-simplify-use-bivalent-mrna-covid-19-vaccines">https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-changes-simplify-use-bivalent-mrna-covid-19-vaccines</a> including a second bivalent booster for some.

The short story – we have an ample supply of the Moderna bivalent vaccine introduced last fall.

We will be offering this vaccine to:

- A "second booster" for all persons 65 years of age or older
- A "second booster" for all persons who are immunocompromised
- A "second booster" for all persons who spend time with persons in either of the above
- Persons >6 months of age who have never received any COVID vaccine
- Persons >6 months of age who have only received 1, 2, or 3 doses of the original monovalent vaccine and not received a dose of the bivalent vaccine

Please direct all questions to Becky Thornburg at 530-694-2146, or bthornburg@alpinecountyca.gov

Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic
Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>
1-5 PM, no appointment necessary
Behavioral Health Services Conference Room
40 Diamond Valley Road, Woodfords



Alpine County Health Department, 75-B Diamond Valley Rd., Markleeville, CA 96120
Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Phone: (530) 694-2281
District 1: Charles Dobson, District 2: Ron Hames, District 3: Irvin Jim,
District 4: Terry Woodrow, District 5: David Griffith

Why? Isn't the emergency over? Yes, but.....

- Hundreds of people are still dying from COVID-19 in the US every day, most of them are seniors.
- Americans 65 years of age or older are hospitalized at 11 times the rate of adults under 50.
- Older persons are more likely to get long COVID.
- Vaccination substantially reduces the risk of serious outcomes for seniors such as hospitalization, long COVID, or death - but the risk triples without boosters!

As the proclaimed federal emergency ends, the free availability of vaccine, at-home tests, and treatments such as Paxlovid will come to an end for many persons.

Older adults and those with compromised immune systems continue to face the real threats of illness every time they go shopping for groceries, attend family gatherings, and participate in community events, especially in crowded indoor facilities.

So, do the right thing for yourself, your family, and your community. Get vaccinated, get tested, get treated.

At the moment it is all FREE!

Alpine County Health Department

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